2092. [*Transferred to the 12th May, 1992.*]

Promotion of SC/ST officers

2093. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI:

KUMARI ALIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 2454 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 12th March 1992 and state:

(a) whether operation of November, 1987 Eligibility List in place of March, 1987 Eligibility List has changed the number of 104 reserved vacancies out of 460 vacancies in Grade I of CSS;

(b) whether Supreme Court has given specific direction not to promote SC/ST officers as per 40 Point Roster by extending zone of consideration to fill up reserved quota;

(c) whether Court has given specific direction to revert SC/ST officers already promoted as Under Secretaries against reserved quota; and

(d) whether question of filling up of 22 percent reserved vacancies is in dispute before the Court?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) In the interim order issued by the Supreme Court on 20-9-1991, the direction was that during the pendency of the appeal, promotion should be made only on the basis of the Eligibility List of 1987, according to the ranking in that list. In the light of the contempt petition filed against the promotion order issued on 4.12.1991 and the clarifications given by the Hon'ble Supreme Court on 22.1.1992 during the hearing of the said contempt petition, it was decided to make promotions from the Eligibility List of November, 1987 strictly following the ranking in that list and in that process officers belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who did not come within the ranking had to be left out. While there was no specific direction from the Hon'ble Supreme Court to revert SC|ST officers, the consequence of making promotions strictly according to the ranking in the eligibility list was non-promotion of SC|ST officers fully according to the reserved quota. An interim application has been filed in the Supreme Court seeking permission to promote SC/ST officers against the quota of 22½ percent.

Newsitem Captioned 'Fluoride ghost haunts Amreli'

@2094. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in the Statesmen of April 14, 1992 under the caption "Fluoride ghost haunts Amreli";

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a high level of fluoride in the underground drinking water causing death of about 70,000 people in about 37 villages of Amreli District of Gujarat;

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(d) what steps Government have taken for the provision of fresh drinking water to save the lives of the affected people; and

(e) what are the details of scheme so far undertaken by the Central and State Governments and the progress so far made in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI UTTAMBHAI H. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The level of fluoride reported in 36 affected villages in Amreli dis-

@Previously unstarred question 1611, transferred from 8th May, 1992.

trict was maximum upto 11 ppm (parts per million)|miligram per litre against the permissible level of 1.5 ppm. Continuous use of excess fluoride in drinking water leads to dental and skeletal deformity but this does not lead to any death.

(c) 36 villages-13 in Lathi and 23 in Lilla have excess fluoride in drinking water in Amreli district.

(d) and (e) A regional water supply scheme covering 36 affected villages is being implemented through a river dam (Kalubhar). 26 villages have already been provided safe drinking water facilities from this scheme. The remaining villages are likely to be covered by the end of June, 1992. The villages having excess fluoride in drinking water are provided safe drinking water facilities through alternative sources or through defluoridation plants.

विकास परियोजनाओं में ग्रामीणों का योगदान

2095. **श्री शिवप्रसाद चनपुरिया :** क्या **प्रधान मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) ग्रामीण विकास परिषद के अधीन विकास परियोजनाओं में ग्रामीणों का योगदान कितने प्रतिशत है;

(ख) ग्रामीणों को अनुसंधान करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करने हेतु कौन-कौन सी योजनाएं हैं, अब तक ग्रामीणों द्वारा कितने कापीराइट्स और पेटेंट कराये गये हैं और इस संबंध में वार्षिक औसत कितना है;

(ग) ग्रामीणों से अधिक से अधिक अनुसंधान कराने और उनके द्वारा पेटेंट कराये जाने के लिए समयबद्ध योजना का ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) ग्रामीण विकास पत्रिकाओं के नाम अंग्रेजी से बदलकर हिन्दी में करने की योजनाओं का ब्यौरा क्या है ?

ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री जी० वेंकटस्वामी) : (क) सरकार को ग्रामीण विकास परिषद तथा उसके माध्यम से कार्यान्वित की जा रही विकास परियोजनाओं की जानकारी नहीं है।

(ख) और (ग) ग्रामीण लोगों द्वारा अनुसंधान किए जाने के बारे में कोई योजना नहीं है। तथापि, भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद के विस्तार शिक्षा कार्यक्रमों अर्थात् राष्ट्रीय प्रदर्शन परियोजना, आपरेशन रिसर्च, ऑनफार्म रिसर्च तथा "प्रयोगशाला से खेत तक" कार्यक्रम (लेब टू लैंड प्रोग्राम) की मार्फत अनुसंधान प्रौद्योगिकी के परिणाम को किसानों तक पहुंचाया जाता है; ग्रामीण लोगों द्वारा पेटेंटों अथवा प्रतिलिप्याधिकार के बारे में कोई विशेष योजना नहीं है।

(घ) ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय दो मासिक प्रकाशन, कुरुक्षेत्र और ग्रामीण विकास न्यूजलेटर प्रकाशित करता है। ग्रामीण जनसंख्या के काफी बड़े वर्ग की जरूरतों को पूरा करने के उद्देश्य से ये दोनों प्रकाशन हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी दोनों भाषाओं में प्रकाशित किए जाते हैं। ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय द्वारा प्रकाशित किए जा रहे प्रकाशनों के नामों को बदलने के लिए कोई प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन नहीं है।

Corruption in Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology Department

2096. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of rampant corruption prevailing in the department of Council for Advancement of People's Actions and Rural Technology; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVE-